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A COPIE OF COLLNEL MASSEY'S LETTER:

Of all the particulars of the great Fight betweene him, and Prince RVPERT, at *Ledbury* on *Wedneſday* the 22.th of *Aprill*, 1645.

With the number and Names of the Chiefe of thoſe that were Killed, and taken on both ſides.

AS ALSO

The taking of 10 Peece of Ordnance by Collonel MASSEY at *Lydney*.

Die Jovis Maii, 1. 1645.

Commanded to be Printed, and is publiſhed according to Order.

LONDON,
Printed by THO: FORCET, 1645.

The Cartwright Library

A Copie of Collonel MASSEY'S *Letter.*

SIR:

IN *Tuesday* last the 21th. of this instant *April*, *an. Dom.* 1645. Prince *Rupert* marching all that Night came the next Morning, *Wednesday* the 22th. before *Ludbury*; where I then was, but the Enemy intercepting 8. Scouts, we had no Intelligence, till they were neere at hand. The Enemy advanced,

ced, and charged into the Towne upon us; and my selfe (with divers Gentlemen. *Viz.* Major *Harlow*, Lieutenant Collonel *Kerle*, Major *Bacchus*, Captaine *Gifford*, Captaine *Moore*, and Captaine *Baily*, with some others and some common Souldiers, with the assistance of 200 Musketiers out of the County forces) received them; And so soone as we received the Alarme, we drew out upon them, and marching close up to them, fell on them, beat them to a retreat, and made it good against them, so long till my Foot might retreat a secure way to *Glocester*. After the foot we marched off, and out of the towne we had two or three hot Charges upon them, where we slew neere 40 of the Enemies men, and the most of them that were killed were Officers, at which Charge (as it seemes) the Lord *Hastings* with some others of quality were slaine. On our part wee had very few killed, not above 6 or 7. But I was inforced my self still to Charge in the head of all my troopes to encourage all the *Warwicke* and

North-

Northampton horſe, I and my Officers bearing the heate of the day.

At length, intending to retreat to our place of advantage (ſome horſe of thoſe ſent to me not ſtanding to it, as they ſhould have done) the Eneme got in amongſt our Foot, but we redeemed that againe, and marched off into the fiel d.

The Enemy have ſent us a liſt of the Priſoners which they tooke from us: the number by their own liſt is 110 Priſoners, but above 80 of thoſe were none of my men, only ſuch Country people as they ſwept away with them in their retreat, that did never beare Armes, only they carried them away to cauſe them by money, or making friends for exchange to redeeme themſelves: my Major, Serjeant major *Bacchus* is deſperatly wounded in the head, and was carried away Priſoner by the Enemy to *Hereford*. Major *Harlow* had a ſleight wound in the head, and another in the arme, but came bravely off; Captain *Baily*, and Captain *Foſter*, with ſome

other common men of ours are taken Prisoners by them. J have sent for their freedome by exchange of some of those Prisoners J tooke from them, many of them being of quality, enow to redeeme them all if they were thrice as many.

Prince *Rupert* sent me word by my Trumpetter that J sent, that in the fight he sought me out, but knew not till after, no more then J knew him. But it seemes we charged each other, and he shot my horse under me, and J did as much for him. At that Charge many Commanders of theirs fell.

Prince *Rupert* is (J heare) very much enraged to undertake so great and toilesome a march, and so much to misse his end. J had by Gods blessing my intentment, and stopt his present march Northward, to God be the glory.

Prince *Ruperts* Army by the report of the Countrey, is noised about to be 6 or 7000 Horse and Foot: who are now upon their march againe towards *Ludlow*, and so, as J heare,

heare, intend for *Salop*, if they bee not prevented againe, which muſt be by a more conſiderable ſtrength then J have.

The forces that were with me, were in all about 5000 Foot, and 350 Horſe, nor were theſe all with me at *Lydbury*, for my Guards were not come up.

The Enemy brag little of their getting, but lament much; the Names of the Commanders and Officers that were ſlaine by us, J ſhall ſend you by the next.

Aprill the 25. 1645.

Your humble Servant,

E. MASSEY.

Poſtſcript.

Mr laſt letter told you that Lydney *houſe was fired and Sir* Iohn Winter *ran away by the light of the flames, and for haſt over-ran 2 of his great Gunnes, one demy Culverin, one Sakre, and three braſes of Iron murderers, which he left behind at* Lydney *to do a curteſy.*

Sir Iohn *fired all the way he went, till our forces drove them to* Cheſter, *purſuing him over the bridge.*

WHereas ſome Malignants have noyſed abroad that a great deſeat hath been given to Collonel *Maſſey*; and have been ſo bold as to report it to have come from Collonel *Maſſeyes* own mouth, and that

that he having lost 150 Prisoners retreated to *Glouster*, that himselfe was wounded; flying away with 6 horse which is so falle; and full of poyson and Malignancy, to desparage the proceedings of that gallant Gentleman that I dare warrant you it hath been drawen out from *Oxford*, onely to lessen the honourable Victories Collonel *Massey* hath obtained with but an handfull of men. It is therefore thought fit that this letter (comming from Collonel *Massey* himself the same being also confirmed by divers other letters) should be Printed and published to make those Malignants ashamed, who have fomented such abominable, and filthy lies; which however those vipers seeke to poyson us by being permitted in the bosome of the City, yet a sudden course will be taken with them.

The Malignants have not onely done so in this businesse of Collonel *Massey* but in divers other things, and when we have notice of some Victory obtained by any of the Parliaments forces, then presently they rayse some lye or other of a second charge or something they will have to lessen or extennate the former.

I wonder how any impudent Malignant that hath stood so stiffe in charging so great a losse (as hath been reported upon Collonel *Massey*,) can for shame shew their faces to those they reported it.

But hereafter other manner of course will be taken with the broachers and fomenters of such Malignant lies.

FINIS.